

Message Text

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53

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 DPW-01 IO-14 ACDA-19 AID-20

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 NEA-14 DRC-01

/184 W

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P R 291108Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 586

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

CINCPAC

CDR 13TH AF, CLARK, AB

CDR USSAG NKP

CDR JCRC NKP

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 6721

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, LA

SUBJ: JCCIA AGREES TO RELEASE POWS

REF: VIENTIANE 6550 (NOTAL)

1. ACCORDING TO VIENTIANE SIDE SPOKESMAN TO THE JOINT CENTRAL COMMISSION TO IMPLEMENT THE AGREEMENT (JCCIA), THE 33RD PLENARY JCCIA SESSION, AUGUST 29, ADDRESSED THE POW ISSUE. SPOKESMAN STATED BOTH SIDES AGREED ON PROCEEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED DURING EXCHANGE OF POWS AND THAT VIENTIANE SIDE AGREED TO THE FOUR SITES PORPOSED BY LPF AT LAST WEEK'S MEETING (REFTEL).

2. SPOKESMAN STATED THAT ALL POWS, REGARDLESS OF THEIR
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NATIONALITY, SHOULD BE RELEASED. TWO SIDES ALSO AGREED

THAT FIRST RELEASE WOULD TAKE PLACE TWENTY DAYS AFTER THE REGULATIONS HAVE BEEN SIGNED (I.E., AUGUST 29). ACCORDING TO OUR CALCULATIONS, THE FIRST RELEASE SHOULD, THEREFORE, TAKE PLACE ON OR ABOUT SEPTEMBER 19.

3. SPOKESMAN STATED THAT POWS WILL BE RELEASED AT POINTS WHICH CLOSEST TO THEIR DETAINMENT AREAS AND, IF POSSIBLE, ALL PRISONERS IN A GIVEN AREA WOULD BE RELEASED AT ONE TIME. HE SAID THAT THERE WOULD BE ONE RELEASER ONLY AT EACH OF THE FOLLOWING PLACES: PAK OU, ROUTES 9 AND 23. IF NECESSARY, THERE WILL BE MORE THAN ONE RELEASE AT PHONG SAVAN ON THE PDJ. SPOKESMAN WAS UNABLE TO STATE WHAT KIND OF TIME INTERVAL WOULD SEPARATE THE FIRST RELEASE FROM THOSE TO FOLLOW.

4. REPORTEDLY, THE EMMET KAY CASE WAS NOT SPECIFICALLY DISCUSSED AT TODAY'S MEETING, BUT BOTH SPOKESMEN TOLD EMBASSY LOCAL EMPLOYEE THAT ONE THING IS CERTAIN: KAY WILL BE RELEASED, ALTHOUGH TIME AND PLACE OF HIS RELEASE REMAINS UNKNOWN.

5. SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE RELEASE OF POWS WOULD BE WITNESSED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ICC/LAOS AND THE PRESS, ALTHOUGH THE NUMBER OF PRESS PRESENT WOULD HAVE TO BE LIMITED.
WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENTS, POW RETURN
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: martinml
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974VIENTI06721
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740239-0655
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974086/aaaaaeqa.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: VIENTIANE 6550 (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinml
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <12 MAR 2003 by martinml>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JCCIA AGREES TO RELEASE POWS
TAGS: MOPS, LA, JCCIA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005